Oregon DEQ

Environmental Cleanup Site Information (ECSI) Database Site Summary Report - Details for Site ID 1686

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This report contains site details, organized into the following sections: 1) Site Photos (appears only if the site has photos); 2) General Site Information; 3) Site Characteristics; 4) Substance Contamination Information; 5) Investigative, Remedial and Administrative Actions; and 6) Site Environmental Controls (i.e., institutional or engineering controls; appears only if DEQ has applied one or more such controls to the site). A key to certain acronyms and terms used in the report appears at the bottom of the page.

Go to DEQ's Facility Profiler to see a site map as well is information on what other DEQ programs may be active at this site.

General Site Information

Site ID: 1686	Site Name: Blue Lagoon - Marine Terminal 5		CERCLIS No:
Address:	N Lombard St. Portland 97203		
	County: Multnomah		Region: Northwest
Other location information:	South end of Port of Portland Marine Terminal #5		
Investigation Status:	Suspect site requiring further investigation		
	Brownfield Site: No	NPL Site: No	Orphan Site: No / Study Area: No
Property:	Twnshp/Range/Sect: 2N , 1W , 26		Tax Lots: 26-2N-1W Tax Lots 8, 10
	Latitude: 45.6309 deg.	Longitude: -122.7781 deg.	Site Size: 4 acres
Other Site Names:	Oregon Steel Mills Slag Pile Port of Portland - Terminal 5 Portland Harbor Sediment Study		

Site Characteristics

General Site Description:

Site History:

Contamination Information: In 1975, Oregon Steel Mills (OSM) bought property from the Port of Portland inclusive of the lagoon, and used water from the lagoon to cool steel slag. The slag itself was disposed of in and around the lagoon, which was partly filled in 1988 by the Army Corps of Engineers. The Port repurchased the site from OSM in 1981 and began environmental investigations of the lagoon in 1993. A 1994 report concluded that total metals in the slag exceeded background, but were not present in significant concentrations in lagoon sediments, and were not leachable. The 1995 investigation included a geophysical survey of the lagoon; sediment, slag, and soil sampling; groundwater and surface water sampling; and a hydrogeological characterization. The slag contained a high concentration of chromium, but it did not leach. The only potential environmental

	issues identified were low levels of PCBs in several shallow sediment samples from the lagoon, and a high pH (12.8) in water from a monitoring well that had been installed through slag.
Manner and Time of Release:	On-site disposal of steel slag since about 1975; sources of PCBs unknown.
Hazardous Substances/Waste Types:	chromium, PCBs
Pathways:	
Environmental/Health Threats:	
Status of Investigative or Remedial Action:	The presence of large quantities of steel slag in the vicinity of the lagoon does not appear to present significant environmental risks, because the metals within the slag, primarily chromium, seem to have little tendency to leach. The high pH in the groundwater within one monitoring well appears to be associated with the slag, and may be due to limestone used in the steelmaking process. Site Assessment recommends that any development of the site include an evaluation of the direct contact risks associated with PCBs in shallow lagoon sediments, and an appropriate remediation plan. Groundwater monitoring should occur to make sure that dissolved chromium does not migrate off-site. Further action at the site is a low priority. (GMW 9/25/95) Pad Quinn from the Port called: Port has obtained an Army Corps of Engineers permit to fill the lagoon with a 12-ft. cap of river sand; the site will be leased to a potash facility, and a rail loop will be constructed where the lagoon now sits. The Port intends to continue monitoring groundwater for chromium. (11/20/01 TBG/VCP) Port submitted a Preliminary Assessment dated 9/7/00. No current sources of contamination to the Willamette River were identified. Low priority for follow-up action.
Data Sources:	"Site Characterization for the 'Blue Lagoon' at Marine Terminal 5," prepared for the Port of Portland by PTI Environmental Services, April 1995.

Substance Contamination Information

Substance	Media Contaminated	Concentration Level	Date Recorded
CHROMIUM	Groundwater	0.15 mg/L	2/27/1995
CHROMIUM	Sediment	236 ppm	2/27/1995
PCB 1248	Sediment	10 ppm	2/27/1995

Investigative, Remedial and Administrative Actions

Action	Start Date	Compl. Date	Resp. Staff	Lead Pgm
SITE EVALUATION	04/27/1995	05/17/1995	Gil Wistar	SAS
Other remedial or investigative action recommended	05/17/1995	05/17/1995	Gil Wistar	SAS
Site added to database	05/17/1995		Gil Wistar	SAS
BASIC PRELIMINARY ASSESSEMENT	09/07/2000	11/20/2001	Tom Gainer	VCS
State Expanded Preliminary Assessment recommended (XPA) (Primary Action)	11/20/2001	11/20/2001	Tom Gainer	VCP

Key to certain acronyms and terms in this report:
CERCLIS No.: The U.S. EPA's Hazardous Waste Site identification number, shown

only if EPA has been involved at the site.
Region: DEQ divides the state into three regions, Eastern, Northwest, and Western; the regional office shown is responsible for site investigation/cleanup.
NPL Site: Is this site on EPA's National Priority List (i.e., a federal Superfund site)? (Y/N).
Orphan Site: Has DEQ's Orphan Program been active at this site? (Y/N). The Orphan Program uses state funds to clean up high-priority sites where owners and operators responsible for the contamination are absent, or are unable or unwilling to use their own resources for cleanup.
Study Area: Is this site a Study Area? (Y/N). Study Areas are groupings of individual ECSI sites that may be contributing to a larger, area-wide problem. ECSI assigns unique Site ID numbers to both individual sites and to Study Areas.
Pathways: A description of human or environmental resources that site contamination could affect.
Lead Pgm: This column refers to the Cleanup Program affiliation of the DEQ employee responsible for the action shown. SAS or SAP = Site Assessment; VCS or VCP = Voluntary Cleanup; ICP = Independent Cleanup; SRS or SRP = Site Response (enforcement cleanup); ORP = Orphan Program.

You may be able to obtain more information about this site by contacting Tom Gainer at (503) 229-5326 or via email at gainer.tom@deq.state.or.us. If this does not work, you may contact Gil Wistar at (503) 229-5512, or via email at wistar.gil@deq.state.or.us or contact the Northwest regional office.